

## McMillin inaugurated as eighth president of BMC

Tony Martin  
Associate Editor

Barbara Childers McMillin, a native of Faulkner, her husband Larry, a native of Walnut, and son Sam have returned to their Mississippi roots as McMillin was inaugurated as the eighth president of Blue Mountain College (BMC) in Blue Mountain April 26.

The formal 10 a.m. ceremonies capped off a week of inaugural events including an inaugural chapel April 22 featuring Rhonda H. Kelly, adjunct professor of Women's Ministry at New Orleans Seminary; a prayer breakfast April 23; an inaugural coffee April 24; a scholarship appreciation luncheon April 25; and an inaugural concert by the Blue Mountain Chorale, also on April 25.

McMillin succeeds Bettye Rogers Coward, who retired June 30, 2012. McMillin served as Associate Provost and Dean of Instruction at Union University, Jackson, Tenn., for 20 years prior to her coming to Blue Mountain.

More than 500 from the BMC community, family members, faculty and staff from other institutions

of higher learning, and other dignitaries gathered for the formal installation. McMillin became president on August 1, 2012.

Two of McMillin's predecessors — E. Harold Fisher, who was BMC president from 1965 to 2001, and Coward, who served as president from 2001

until 2012, both took part in the services. Inaugural charges were given by Jim Futral, Executive Director — Treasurer of the Mississippi Baptist Convention Board, and David S. Dockery, president of Union University.

As befitting the occasion, the ceremony included a processional including delegates from other universities, learned societies, and BMC faculty. Traditionally, delegates are placed in the processional based on the order their institutions were founded.

Other attendees at the investiture ceremony included BMC staff and students; and other local, state, and nationally elected leaders.

Other highlights of the formal inaugural ceremony included greetings from Doug Norton, mayor of Blue Mountain; Nathan Rogers, president of the Student Body Association; Betty Hearn, professor of English and chair of the Department of Language and Literature; Joyee Hodges Peters, Chief Financial Officer; Michael

see MCMILLIN  
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### CONTINUING THE TRADITION

Barbara Childers McMillin, a native of Faulkner, her husband Larry, a native of Walnut, and son Sam have returned to their Mississippi roots as McMillin was inaugurated as the eighth president of Blue Mountain College (BMC) in Blue Mountain April 26.



## Security is subject of GuideStone seminar

**HOUSTON (BP)** — On the heels of the Boston Marathon bombing that killed three people and wounded hundreds, GuideStone Financial Resources will offer a seminar on church security at the 2013 Southern Baptist Convention (SBC) annual meeting in Houston.

Jeff Laster, an associate pastor at Wedgwood Church in Fort Worth and a survivor of the 1999 shooting there that resulted in the deaths of seven people, will participate in a panel discussion in

part two of the seminar on June 12 from 7:30-8:30 a.m. in Room 362B on Level 3 of the George R. Brown Convention Center.

Risk management and legal experts will join Laster on the panel.

Part one of the seminar on June 11 from 8-9 a.m. in the same room will feature an industry expert from Brotherhood Mutual Insurance Company to discuss how to address safety concerns, protect members and visitors and train an effective security team.

Seating is limited for the free seminar that includes a complimentary hot breakfast on both days. Registration can be accomplished online beginning in May at [www.GuideStone.org/SBC13](http://www.GuideStone.org/SBC13) or onsite at the GuideStone booth in the Exhibit Hall.

Retirement experts will be on hand June 10 from 3-4 p.m.; June 11 from 9-10 a.m. and 3-4 p.m.; and June 12 from 9-10 a.m. in Room 350F of the convention center to discuss GuideStone's retirement income options.

## Early reports in error regarding blocking of web site by military

**NASHVILLE (BP and local reports)** — Malware on the Southern Baptist Convention (SBC) web site was to blame for the website being blocked on some military bases last week, according to U.S. Department of Defense spokesman U.S. Army Lt. Col. Damien Pickart.

Pickart said the military's software filters detected malware at SBC.net and blocked the website. The malware was removed and the denomination's website has been unblocked, he said.

Webopedia.com defines malware as: "Short for malicious software, malware refers to software designed specifically to damage or disrupt a system, such as a virus or a Trojan horse."

The Department of Defense is not intentionally blocking access to this site, Pickart told The Tennessean newspaper in Nashville, in an e-mail. "The Department of Defense strongly supports the religious rights of service members, to include their ability to access religious websites like that of the SBC."

Social media sites were buzzing April 25 over allegations that the military had blocked the website for other reasons. FoxNews first reported that Southern Baptist-endorsed chaplains on military installations had unsuccessfully tried to access SBC.net, and had received a message: "The site you have requested has been blocked by Team CONUS (C-TNOSC/RCERT-CONUS) due to hostile content."

The site was not blocked at the Pentagon, FoxNews said.

The Associated Press wrote a story summarizing what had happened, and that story was carried on websites around the world. Some Christians focused on the phrase, "hostile content," and wondered whether the denomination's traditional positions on abortion, homosexual marriage, and the Bible were the reasons the military was blocking the site.

Chris Chapman, the SBC Executive Committee's director of information systems in Nashville, said SBC.net, like the websites of many other organizations, is a target for

hackers. He also said the military's filters are at an "optimum level" for blocking content — not simply "recognizing invading viruses" but also blocking anything that possibly could be harmful.

"This most recent challenge fits into that latter category, and has been dealt with satisfactorily," Chapman said. "Unfortunately, SBC.net has joined the ranks of other major organizations that are targets for hackers, detractors, and activists."

"Those engaged in destructive creativity will exploit the continuing development of new technologies to cause new harm and threats of harm continually, so this latest challenge is, for us, just another one of the sort we deal with every day. The fact that it made the news was certainly a distinguishing feature, but the attempted attack was not all that unusual."

SBC.net remains safe to visit, he said. "Certainly, having adequate virus protection is necessary for us all, but visitors to SBC.net need not worry about harm from visiting our site to any greater degree than they could from any and well-

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## From the editor

WILLIAM PERKINS

### 'God bless' baby killing?

It's easy for pundits and ordinary citizens alike to use the President of the United States — any President — as a punching bag. A President's visibility is always high, and they use their tremendous authority in ways with which we disagree. They are not above playing politics and fighting bareknuckle to get their way. Sometimes we feel like we would rather have anyone else in the job than the one who holds the office at the time. No matter where he comes down on an issue, he's going to anger a significant portion of the country. It can get personal.

All of that just goes with the territory but since there are dozens of aspirants at any given time, it must be a pretty good gig. That's because Americans usually are willing to give the President the benefit of the doubt, even when at odds with his policies and pronouncements. We simply want to believe that the President of the United States of America, unlike so many entrenched despots around the world, has the best interests of our country, our families, and ourselves foremost in his mind.

However, there are times when a U.S. President goes so far off course that the people must rise up and correct him, and there are issues that should compel Christians to stand up and be counted. This is one of those times. This is one of those issues.

President Barack Obama recently became the first American President to address the Planned Parenthood National Conference in Washington, D.C. Planned Parenthood, conceived in the early days of the last century as a way to control the population of minorities and other powerless people groups through abortion, is currently the largest provider of legalized infanticide services in the country.

At a gala celebration held at the Marriott Wardman Park Hotel to honor three rabid abortion supporters — Los Angeles Mayor Antonio Villaraigosa, actress Lena Dunham, and sexologist Ruth Westheimer — Obama paid tribute to the organization that helped defeat Mississippi's Initiative 26 which would have recognized pre-born babies as human beings.

"In Mississippi, a ballot initiative was put forward that could not only have outlawed your right to choose, but could have had all sorts of other far-reaching consequences like cutting off fertility treatments, making certain forms of contraception a crime," Obama said, according to a transcript released by The White House.

"That's absurd. It's wrong. It's an assault on women's rights. And that's why when the people of Mississippi were given a chance to vote on that initiative, they turned it down. Mississippi is a conservative state, but they wanted to make clear there's nothing conservative about the government injecting itself into decisions best made between a woman and her doctor. And folks are trying to do this all across the country."

"When you read about some of these laws, you want to check the calendar; you want to make sure you're still living in 2013."

Now, this is a president who can't find time to address the annual Boy Scouts of America National Jamboree as so many of his predecessors had done. This is a president who broke longstanding precedent when he declined to host a National Day of Prayer ceremony in The White House, but upheld another venerable tradition when he welcomed Muslims for an Iftar dinner in their honor.

Yet this President can be the first to attend the Planned Parenthood National Conference and glorify the intentional destruction of millions of American babies.

"...[As] long as we've got to fight to protect a woman's right to make her own choices about her own health, I want you to know that you've also got a President who's going to be right there with you fighting every step of the way. Thank you, Planned Parenthood. God bless you..." he said, according to the official transcript.

Can Mr. Obama actually believe that God blesses the boastful killing of His little ones? That's how low presidential leadership has sunk, but we elected this man of our own free will. That's how low our country has sunk.

## Ministers, the standards are high

A magazine that recently caught my attention is Mosaic, the institutional magazine published by Louisville Presbyterian Theological Seminary in Louisville, Ky. One of Mosaic's featured stories from its fall 2012 edition stopped me in my tracks. The article highlighted Maurice "Bojangles" Blanchard's alternative lifestyle and ministry pursuit.

Blanchard is a practicing homosexual and alternative lifestyle advocate in the Louisville area. He was recently ordained to ministry by his church, Highland Baptist, a church that long ago abandoned affiliation with the Southern Baptist Convention, the Kentucky Baptist Convention, and the local Baptist association. He leads True Colors at his church, a ministry created to attract members of the homosexual community.

My interest intensified when I read Blanchard's testimony regarding his perceived call to ministry and his ensuing pursuit of theological education. Blanchard reflected on his interaction with the seminary administration and community, noting, "I didn't go there [Louisville Presbyterian Theological Seminary] looking for them to say 'You're gay and I affirm you. I wanted to go there and hear, 'You're in ministry, and I affirm that,' and I felt that from day one."

Embedded within Blanchard's statement is a ruinous logic. At first reading, one might find Blanchard's dichotomy between personal lifestyle and call to ministry acceptable and even appealing, especially in the modern milieu of subjective, autonomous spirituality.

A closer look, however, reminds us that the New Testament does not proffer this option.

To be called to ministry, one must possess a lifestyle that passes scriptural muster, for God's Holy Spirit does not contradict God's Holy Word, and vice versa. Indeed, 1 Timothy 3:1-7 and Titus 1:6-9 make clear that God's standard for ministry is high.

The threshold is high because the office is high. The office is high because we serve a high God who guards the glory of His name and His church.

The point is not so much that we sit in judgment of Blanchard, or anyone else pursuing ministry. Rather, the point is that the Word of God judges us all. Sadly, one need not look to non-evangelical entities to find confusion pertaining to the call to ministry. Evangelical churches often exhibit ambiguity and contradiction surrounding the call to ministry and the character marks that are to accompany it.



### Guest opinion

with Jason K. Allen

One need not be perfect to be a minister, but one does have to be above reproach. Clearly, the point is not perfection. If that were the case, then a qualified seminary student — or seminary president — could not be found. The point is that God's call to ministry on a person's life corresponds with the affirmation of the people of God and the approbation of God's Word.

A church that rejects the scriptural qualifications for ministry doth not a biblical ordination make.

My heart harbors no ill feeling toward Blanchard. Rather my heart carries grief for him, his church, and those to whom he ministers. He is a sinner, as am I. I am, however, deeply grieved by the moral and ministerial confusion he exhibits.

The tragedy in the story of Maurice Blanchard is not that it is one more incremental step toward the full normalization of homosexuality in our culture. The tragedy is that an erstwhile minister, who lives in rebellion against God's moral and ministerial standards, bears false witness about the nature of the church, the transformative power of the Gospel, and the biblical expectation of ministers.

In so doing, he tarnishes the glory of Christ. Whether it is by means of an aberrant lifestyle or the display of more acceptable and domesticated sins, any attempt to separate a call to ministry from godly character is a division that cannot be made. What God hath joined together, who are we to separate?

Yet Blanchard's story is more than an article to be lamented; it is a sober reminder for all pursuing ministry. In the words of the Apostle Paul, "Pay attention to your life and to your doctrine, as you do you will ensure salvation for yourself and those who hear you" (1 Timothy 4:16).

Allen is the new president of Midwestern Seminary in Kansas City, Mo. He will be inaugurated on May 1.

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## WORLD NEWS

# Pastor's health fading as Iranian captors increase oppression

**TEHRAN (BP)** — In another effort to force Iranian pastor Saeed Abedini to recant his faith, prison officials in Tehran have placed him in solitary confinement, something the executive director of the American Center for Law and Justice (ACLJ) calls "perhaps his most grave situation since his imprisonment last fall."

Abedini, a U.S. citizen of Iranian descent, has served time in solitary confinement in the past, telling his family it was the hardest time in his life, according to a statement by his wife Naghmeh. He explained that "every hour was like one year and that he was losing his memory and his health was deteriorating quickly," she recounted.

In addition to solitary confinement, ACLJ reported April 29 that Abedini's severe internal bleeding continues and has gone untreated, and now his kidneys are not functioning properly.

"We have been able to confirm that the horrible conditions in Evin Prison led Pastor Saeed and a number of prisoners in Ward 350 to sign a letter expressing to prison officials their concern about the lack of medical care received and the threats and harsh treatment facing family members who come to visit," ACLJ said.

The prisoners then expressed their dissatisfaction in a peaceful, silent protest in an outside courtyard at the prison, the legal organization representing Idaho resident Naghmeh Abedini said. The letter and peaceful protest apparently prompted prison officials to select 10 prisoners to place in solitary confinement, including Abedini, ACLJ said.

"Our sources indicate that Pastor Saeed is likely to be beaten again, in private, away from other witnesses and prisoners," Jordan Sekulow, ACLJ's executive director, wrote. "At the same time, there's concern that his kidneys are no longer operating properly, the result of the internal injuries he has received over many months."

Abedini has been told not to expect medical treatment for months, and when his family arrived at the prison Monday to visit him, they were turned away and told he was no longer allowed to have visitors, ACLJ said.

Naghmeh Abedini requested, "Please pray for his health and healing. Pray for his release. Pray that the Lord would use this for His glory and salvation of many."

Also in Sekulow's report, he conveyed comments from a former Iranian political prisoner who spent 15 years in Iranian prisons, including some time at Evin. The former prisoner said Abedini most likely is on a list of prisoners the authorities want to break, including those who have refused to repent of their faith or confess to their crimes.

"They took Saeed to solitary confinement to put pressure on his belief and faith," the former prisoner said. "This shows that Saeed has stood strong for his faith."

In a letter obtained by ACLJ earlier in April, Abedini wrote that he was told by Iranian prison officials, "Deny your faith in Jesus Christ and return to Islam or else you will not be released from prison. We will make sure you are kept here even after your eight year sentence is finished."

Abedini's response, he wrote, is Romans 8:35-39, which says persecution and death cannot separate a believer from Christ. "The reality of Christian living is that difficulties or problems do arise in our lives," Abedini wrote. "Persecution and difficulties are not new occurrences, but are seen often in the Christian life. It is through the suffering and tribulations that we are to enter the Kingdom of God."

In an article published by the Idaho Statesman April 26, Tiffany Barrans, ACLJ's international legal director, said the group has petitioned to have the Red Cross enter Tehran as a third party to treat Abedini. "That has not been granted by the Iranian authorities," she said.

Barrans told the newspaper that Abedini has promised Iranian authorities that if he is freed, he will leave Iran and never return. She sees some hope that Abedini's pending appeal will go in his favor, releasing him from an eight-year prison sentence for working with house churches a decade ago.

"It gives the Iranian government an out, to save face," Barrans told the Statesman. "They want to look like a country that is following the rule of law."



ABEDINI

## Transformational Discipleship BUILDING RELATIONSHIPS

Survey of 2,930 American Protestant churchgoers

I intentionally spend time with other believers in order to help them grow in their faith.

28%  
Disagree

42%  
Agree

31%  
Neither agree nor disagree

Note: Figures do not equal 100% due to rounding

LifeWay  
RESEARCH

See Transformational Discipleship Assessment at [tda.lifeway.com](http://tda.lifeway.com)

## LifeWay Research: Churchgoers need to increase discipleship

**NASHVILLE (BP)** — Almost three out of every four churchgoers say they have significant relationships with people at church, but less than half are intentionally helping other believers grow in their faith, according to a study by LifeWay Research, a division of LifeWay Christian Resources of the Southern Baptist Convention.

The survey of Protestant churchgoers identifies "Building Relationships" as one of eight attributes of discipleship that consistently show up in the lives of maturing Christians. The survey is part of a larger study identifying traits of transformational discipleship.

Results of the "Building Relationships" questions reveal a seeming disconnect between churchgoers actually pressing into new relationships or participating in discipling other Christians.

While 74% agree they have developed significant relationships with people at their church, response to the statement "I intentionally try to get to know new people I meet at church" garnered 53% agreement, including only one in six churchgoers who strongly agree.

Additionally, only 42% say they intentionally spend time with other believers in order to help them grow in their faith. Twenty-eight percent say they do not help others grow.

Scott McConnell, director of LifeWay Research, pointed out, "Advertisers know it takes

"It is as if churchgoers arrive to sit together as spectators for a game rather than arriving as player-coaches who work together and develop each other's game."

Scott McConnell

director of LifeWay Research

multiple introductions to get someone's attention. Unfortunately, a visitor to church may have to meet six people before someone cares enough to get to know them."

The research reveals the characteristic that best predicts better building of relationships at church is attendance of small classes or groups of adults. Thirty-three percent of churchgoers attend classes or groups for adults (such as Sunday school, Bible study, small groups or adult Bible fellowships) four or more times in a typical month. Fourteen percent attend two or three times a month.

The highest percentage (41%) indicate they do not attend such groups at all in a typical month, while 12% attend once a month. Four out of 10 churchgoers say they do not attend church groups.

The Bible frames relationships among believers as a proactive investment in other Christians," McConnell said. "In

fact, Hebrews 10:24 refers to the need to exhibit concern for other Christians in ways that encourage love and good works."

Other actions that predict more spiritual maturity in building relationships include praying in a group with other Christians more often, praying for one's church and church leaders, and having regular responsibilities at church.

"Most attendees have friends at church, but only a minority invest time to help other believers develop their faith," McConnell said. "It is as if churchgoers arrive to sit together as spectators for a game rather than arriving as player-coaches who work together and develop each other's game."

The findings on "Building Relationships" are part of the largest discipleship study of its kind. To learn more about the transformational discipleship research visit [LifeWayResearch.com](http://LifeWayResearch.com). The TDA is available at [TDA.LifeWay.com](http://TDA.LifeWay.com).

**Editor's note:** The survey of 2,930 American adults who attend a Protestant church once a month or more was conducted Oct. 14-22, 2011. A demographically balanced online panel was used for the interviewing. Respondents could respond in English, Spanish, or French. The sample provides 95% confidence that the sampling error from the panel does not exceed  $\pm 1.8$  percentage points. Margins of error are higher in subgroups.



A recent study revealed that the most contaminated room in most households is (drumroll please) the kitchen. That is what they said. It is the number one place that most people head to eat if they are hungry or thirsty. Beyond that the study pinpointed the one most contaminated spot in the kitchen is the veggie drawer in the refrigerator. If we were taking a test and these were fill-in the blank questions, I would have missed on both counts.

So what can we do about this terrible contamination that exists in most homes? One option might be that we would charge the kitchen, scrub and clean more, use more disinfectants, and wash out the veggie drawer and other places that harbor harmful things. An even simpler remedy would be to stop eating. That would assure that contamination would drop dramatically if not cease altogether. But after a few days of starvation, I imagine most of us would think that was not a very good option.

Why does all of this contamination exist in the first place? Well, stop and think about it. Fill-up your veggie drawer with lettuce, celery, cucumbers, tomatoes, and some peppers. Then backtrack to where they came from and what they have been through to get to you. Most vegetables have been out in the open exposed to wind, rain, sunshine, soil, and fertilizer. Then they are picked and processed by multiple hands that may have been less than sanitized. They are loaded up in cartons, shipped around, picked up, put down, handled by folks in the grocery who came by to look at it, and on and on the contamination grows.

While I am not a vegetarian I probably could be. If given a choice of things to eat, most of the time I would gravitate toward the things that would end up in that veggie drawer. Refusing to eat them does not appear to be in my future. So what do we do? We wash and clean, and wash and



With Jim Futral, executive director-treasurer  
Mississippi Baptist Convention Board

## Dealing with Contamination

clean so that for ourselves or our families we will reduce the contamination as much as possible so that no one will be made sick if we can possibly prevent it.

I am not a gourmet cook or an expert in food processing, and this is not the recipe section of *The Baptist Record*, but this study did intrigue me and got me to thinking about the most contaminated spots in society. I thought about TV and movies with all of the language, violence, immorality, and deviant behavior that is portrayed every day and over and over in so many venues. A preschool child as well as a senior adult is exposed over and over to mental, emotional, physical, and spiritual contamination. I thought about those places that seem to spring up so quickly all over our land and in every community where people gather to drink, talk, interact, do drugs, and just hangout in an environment that may be on the edge of proper behavior if not legal standing. Certainly, there is contamination to be found in those spots.

Then I thought possibly the most contaminated spot in society could be and maybe should be the church. Before you quickly surmise that is not true because the church should be the cleanest, purest, and most non-contaminated place in society, think again! The people who gather at a church basically fall

into one of two categories. Either they are believers or unbelievers. Every one of the believers who has come to know Jesus Christ as Lord and Savior did so as they acknowledged they are sinners in need of the saving grace of God. The unbelievers have not come to that place, but still both theoretically and practically stand before God as sinners. Even those who have believed may have sin imbedded in the most secret parts of their lives and may stand in great need of cleansing and renewal. All need the cleansing only God can provide.

The typical worship service is not far removed from the first worship service ever recorded in the Bible when two brothers, Cain and Abel, brought their gifts to worship God. One came and offered his gift longing for God to forgive, cleanse, and make his heart right. The other brother came to the same worship service bringing a gift but maintaining his impure heart and clutching his bad attitude. He left contaminated. In fact, as you well remember, Cain was so disconnected from God that when he left the worship service he was far worse off than when he came. His sinful spirit seemed to be in control of his life as he soon would hate more than he had ever hated and even desired to take his brother's life to solve his problems. We might all be better

off if we viewed the church with the following truths in mind.

**First, the church is a place for sinners.** Sometimes those of us in the church begin to think like people in the world who have some kind of perception that the church is for good people, ultra super righteous people, and not for those who have floundered, failed, stumbled, and sinned. But nothing could be further from the biblical truth. For even the finest among us, if we are honest with ourselves before God, would join with the Apostle Paul who described himself as the chief of sinners.

**Secondly, we need to remember that the difference in all of the sinners who come to church is that there are those who have experienced the amazing grace and the incredible forgiveness of a God who loved us so much that He would send His Son to die in our place.** We have no righteousness within us, but we can know right standing with God in Him. We who know the Lord are not superior to anyone. All of our goodness combined and stacked up is nothing more than a pile of filthy rags. But our Jesus, our wonderful, loving, powerful Savior comes to make

a difference in us when we trust Him, look to Him, and He works His redemptive power in us. It is Jesus who makes us different and not we ourselves.

**When we come to church with our gifts of resources, songs, prayers, or a willing heart wanting to serve Him, we do so only because of His grace and His ongoing restorative work in our lives.** That is what we are singing about, and that is why we love to come to church and love to give to His work. Oftentimes, during the course of a week, there have been those experiences where because of the tension in relationships, something was broken or something was said maybe in haste or hate, and we need restoration. We come to church, hear a Word from God, and have our attention focused on Him in a way that we are renewed. We cannot walk away the same as we came or the same as we were in the days before.

So we come to church week after week not out of habit, not just attending meetings, not just filling out cards, or shaking hands with folks but being reminded of our God, who is the great Provider of every need that we have. We come contaminated and again He cleanses our hearts and our minds. When John wrote his little epistle of First John, he reminded the people of God that, "If we confess our sins, he is faithful and just to forgive us our sins, and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness" (1 John 1:9). The church is a gathering of folks whose actions, attitudes, relationships, and mindsets need cleansing and renewing week by week and day by day. Thanks be to God that His love is unchanging and His mercies are new every day.

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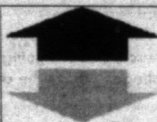
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**2009 CHEVROLET BUS FOR SALE,** 32 passenger with movable luggage wall. 18,000 miles. \$60,000 OBO. For more information contact Bovina Baptist Church, 5293 Hwy 80, Vicksburg, MS 39180. 601-636-0682

**STAINED GLASS:** new windows and repairs. Hopper Stained Glass, Jackson, 601-502-0202.

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## THE MISSISSIPPI BAPTIST FOUNDATION

Foundation News • Spring 2013

# MBF SCHOLARSHIP MINISTRY

### *Addressing the Challenges of MALTUITION*

My mom and dad raised five children who are nine and one-half (9 ½) years apart from the oldest to the youngest. Following high school graduation, up to four of the five were in college or graduate school at any given time. My dad used to joke that he was experiencing "Mal Tuition." Nonetheless, my parents lived daily with the

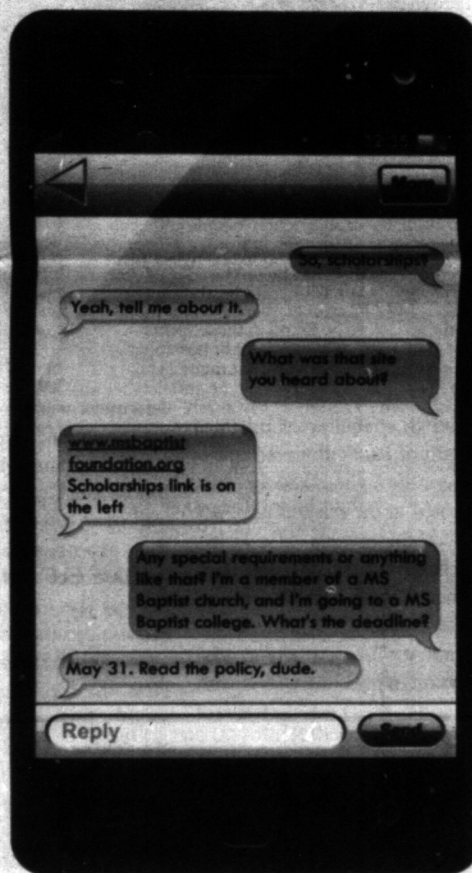


**Daniel Hall**  
Director • MBF

confidence expressed by the apostle Paul who wrote to the church at Philippi "And my God shall supply all your needs according to His riches in glory in Christ Jesus," (Philippians 4:19).

Due to the generosity of many faithful Christian stewards, the Foundation has the privilege of providing needs-based supplemental financial assistance to Mississippi students who are pursuing a degree at a Mississippi Baptist college or a Southern Baptist seminary. Please receive this edition of *Foundation News* not only as a source of Information about the Foundation's scholarship ministry and as a recognition of the scholarship recipients for 2012-2013, but this newsletter also serves as an Invitation for you or your church to partner with the Mississippi Baptist Foundation to address the scholarship and ministry needs in the future to help address the challenges of maltuition!

In an effort to honor the purpose of the MBF Scholarship Ministry, application and eligibility guidelines have been set forth by the Board of Trustees of the Mississippi Baptist Foundation. These guidelines may be reviewed on the Foundation's website at [www.msbaptistfoundation.org](http://www.msbaptistfoundation.org).



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# Honoring our

Dr. Earl Kelly, former executive director-treasurer of the Mississippi Baptist Convention Board, receives a token of appreciation from Daniel Hall in recognition of Kelly's years of service shepherding Mississippi Baptists.



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Dr. Daniel Hall presents commemorative plaques on behalf of the Mississippi Baptist Foundation to Dr. Jim Futral [above] and Rev. Billy Causey [at left], son of the late Dr. Bill Causey, in honor and recognition of the decades of servant leadership in Mississippi.



## The Kelly-Causey-Futal Shepherd Servant Scholarship and Ministry Fund

Although Paul's affirmation of his faith in the Lord and in the adequacy of God's provision was presented initially to the church at Philippi, Christians have experienced the truth of Paul's unwavering expression of trust in the Lord throughout history. Such faith has been demonstrated in the life and ministry of countless numbers of faithful servants of God who, for generations upon generations, shepherded their flocks during an era when little thought was given and few plans were made regarding adequate financial resources for retirement. Today, many retired ministers or their widows often find themselves with "too much month at the end of the check" in terms of some basic needs such as utilities.

Such faith also may be recognized in a tangible manner as God-called men and women pursue academic and ministerial training in response to God's invitation to serve Him through a lifetime of vocational ministry. Providing financial assistance for students who are pursuing theological education is one of the most meaningful areas of ministry in which the Mississippi Baptist Foundation is engaged. Unfortunately, the availability of substantial scholarship funds has not always kept pace with the number of students that apply for an MBF scholarship. Often this reality surfaces most noticeably with seminary students who will be the shepherd servants of the future.

Against the backdrop of meeting financial needs and the desire to join God where he is work-

ing, the Board of Trustees of the Mississippi Baptist Foundation established the "MBF Shepherd Servant Scholarship and Ministry Fund" in 2009. At the annual Mississippi Baptist Convention meeting in 2012, this endowment was renamed as the "Kelly-Causey-Futal Shepherd Servant Scholarship and Ministry Fund" in honor of Drs. Earl Kelly, Bill Causey, and Jim Futral. Collectively, these three men represent well over 100 years of Kingdom ministry. Beyond their extensive pastoral and pulpit experience, all of these men have led Mississippi Baptists faithfully as the Executive Secretary-Treasurer of our Mississippi Baptist Convention.

The stated purpose of this fund is two-fold. First, the fund is designed to provide scholarship awards for students who are pursuing a graduate degree at a Southern Baptist seminary. Second, retired Mississippi Baptist ministers or their widows will receive financial benefit from this fund through the Church Retirement and Retiree Benevolence Committee of the Mississippi Baptist Convention Board.

Beyond the expressed purposes of this new fund, the "Kelly-Causey-Futal Shepherd Servant Scholarship and Ministry Fund" promotes an additional goal. While monies from several undesignated gifts have provided the initial corpus, this fund also provides the opportunity for individuals and churches to make memorial gifts in honor and memory of deceased ministers. Each year, a large number of our shepherd servants "retire" each year to their mansion in Glory. And while these faithful ministers are remembered each year during

a special memorial service when the Mississippi Baptist Convention convenes in the Fall, the "Kelly-Causey-Futal Shepherd Servant Scholarship and Ministry Fund" provides further opportunities to honor these deceased loved ones and shepherd servants.

Gifts to the "Kelly-Causey-Futal Shepherd Servant Scholarship and Ministry Fund" may be made through the Mississippi Baptist Foundation, Post Office Box 530, Jackson, MS 39205. In this manner, shepherd servants of the past will be honored and shepherd servants of the future will be encouraged.





# 2012-2013 Scholarship Recipients

*Encouraging the Present ... Preparing for the Future*

## BLUE MOUNTAIN COLLEGE

Lauren Chasity Barnes	Corinth, MS
Robekah Bennett	Independence, MS
Ciera Dawn Boyle	Holly Springs, MS
Tara Lynn Bridges	Ripley, MS
Kaitlyn Taylor Campbell	Byhalia, MS
Jenna Christine Clendinning	Brandon, MS
Joshua E. Cline	Grenada, MS
Sarah Elizabeth Cox	Athens, WV
Derrick Anthony DeMars	Liberty, MS
Marlie Michele Dubourg	Brandon, MS
Crystal P. Graves	Ripley, MS
Adam Jeffrey Hall	Saltillo, MS
Chalice Beatrice Harbor	Corinth, MS
Anna Michael Harris	Belmont, MS
Hannah Maria Hastings	Booneville, MS
Austin Luke Hatcher	Pontotoc, MS
Aaron Kyle Heard	New Albany, MS
Lowrey Parker James	Holly Springs, MS
Amber Brooke Johnson	Ripley, MS
Allen Rome Lentz	Coldwater, MS
Jon Logan Little	New Albany, MS
Bailey Brooke Littlejohn	New Albany, MS
Amanda Michelle Magers	Tipplersville, MS
Meggin Conlee Nelson	Pontotoc, MS
Kelsey Danielle Nelson	Vardaman, MS
Heather Laniece Noe	Nettleton, MS
Dustin Russell Pierce	Batesville, MS
David Cole Pratt	Winona, MS
Jared Paul Roberts	Shannon, MS
Micah Clay Russell	Pontotoc, MS
Molly Erin Speck	New Albany, MS
Haley Taylor	New Albany, MS
Bailey Tension	Saltillo, MS
Carmen Betzajd Valle-Rangel	Blue Springs, MS
Macy Watkins	Potts Camp, MS
Alexandria Lee White	Tupelo, MS
Tina Renee Wood	New Albany, MS

## GOLDEN GATE BAPTIST THEOLOGICAL SEMINARY

Edwin Garrett Barber	Jackson, MS
Robert Spencer Sims	Brandon, MS
Miranda Carlens Speed	Seminary, MS

## MISSISSIPPI COLLEGE

Haley Nicole Ainsworth	Brookhaven, MS
Leslie Anne Aker	Brookhaven, MS
Jamie Anderson	Clinton, MS
Bailey Anderton	Vicksburg, MS
Kazy Ates	Flowood, MS
Ashley Lauren Aycock	Byram, MS
Lauren Smith Bahm	Petal, MS
Austin Wayne Baney	Madison, MS
Laura-Katherine Barker	Grenada, MS
Wesley Ward Barker	Grenada, MS
Anna Elizabeth Bates	Lucedale, MS
Nicholas Dakota Bibbs	Southaven, MS
Bo Mikel Bilello	Enterprise, MS
Hunter Luke Bloomfield	Vanceville, MS
Timothy Blake Boudreaux	Brandon, MS
Noah Ridge Bowlin	Mendenhall, MS
Amelia Katherine Brashier	Tupelo, MS
Meghan Joyce Brown	Southaven, MS
Halley Alexandra Brunt	Crystal Springs, MS
Kristen McKenzie Bryant	Yazoo City, MS
Shannon Claire Bryant	Madison, MS
Nathan Garrett Burnett	Hattiesburg, MS
Miranda Fant Caldwell	Flora, MS
Andrew Christopher Calhoun	Meridian, MS
William Luke Campbell	Clinton, MS
Olivia Claire Campbell	Terry, MS
Lisa-Marie Cannon	Sandhill, MS
Jessica Elizabeth Carr	Brookhaven, MS
James Mitchell Case	Brookhaven, MS
Kristina Annette Chambers	Meridian, MS
Evan Mitchell Chancellor	Madison, MS
Ashley Chapman	Brandon, MS
Jason Clarkson	Horn Lake, MS
Joseph Gray Cole	Flora, MS
Cameron Clifton Coleman	Clinton, MS
Allison Cook	Starkville, MS
Ashley June Crane	Quitman, MS

Lindsey Nichole Crew	Florence, MS
Lauren Cullen	Oxford, MS
Laura Paige Cummings	Richland, MS
Dylan Thomas Davis	Kosciusko, MS
Jenna Laurin Davis	Hurley, MS
Caleb Alan Dickerson	Southaven, MS
Jamison Bryant Dodd	Picayune, MS
Anna Kayleigh Downey	Brandon, MS
Amanda Drake	Pearl, MS
Victoria Kayla Ellis	Okolona, MS
Lauren Nicole Evans	Ridgeland, MS
Christina Rae Farris	Mt. Pleasant, MS
Claire Elise Fisher	Madison, MS
Kasi DeLaine Fletcher	Brandon, MS
Cali Foreman	Raymond, MS
Kaitlyn Bain Foster	Corinth, MS
Taylor Alyse Gaughf	Brandon, MS
Morgan Elizabeth Gaughf	Brandon, MS
Clayton Matthew Giles	Magee, MS
Lauren Ashley Giles	Brandon, MS
Taylor Lawson Giles	Brandon, MS
Jennifer Gladney	Madison, MS
Christina Ashley Golden	Clinton, MS
Constantino Gonzalez	Ocean Springs, MS
Heather Cheri Greenlee	Columbia, MS
Ellen Taylor Gressett	Meridian, MS
Cole Gressett	Brandon, MS
Maegan Carol Hall	Madison, MS
Zachary Witt Halliwell	Brookhaven, MS
Erin Elizabeth Hamilton	Brandon, MS
Mary Elizabeth Hammack	Madison, MS
Erin Patricia Hammack	Madison, MS
Ashleigh Elizabeth Hardy	Madison, MS
Jacob Hunter Harthcock	Carthage, MS
Erin Elizabeth Haynes	Petal, MS
Kathryn Weslee Hodges	Itta Bena, MS
Mary Kate Holder	Union, MS
Maggie Lyn Holt	West, MS
Bethany Jennifer Hooker	Terry, MS
Melanie Elaine Hurt	Columbus, MS
Lauren Elise Jacobson	Madison, MS
Caleb Franklin Jett	Brandon, MS
Ashley Johnson	Senatobia, MS
Austin James Johnston	Columbus, MS
Kaitlyn Danielle Kilbourne	Madison, MS
Elizabeth Ann King	Starkville, MS
Christopher J. King	Pearl, MS
Alice Katherine Koestler	Vicksburg, MS
Christy Lynn Lacher	Carriere, MS
Victoria K. Langworthy	Clinton, MS
Jordan Carol Langworthy	Clinton, MS
Anna E. Learned	Southaven, MS
Joshua Dotson Lee	Clinton, MS
Erick Lee Lofton	Calhoun City, MS
Brittnee Michele Long	Philadelphia, MS
John Benton Long	Bruce, MS
Alexandria K. Luckey	Magee, MS
Steven Parker Luckey	Clinton, MS
Lori NaBeth Lusk	Clinton, MS
Matthew Davis Mahaffey	Raymond, MS
Lindsey Marler	Carthage, MS
Cameron Matthew McCormick	Moss Point, MS
Rachel Susanne McLendon	Glen Allan, MS
Matthew Elijah McMillan	Pearl, MS
Grayson Miller	Columbia, MS
Taylor Nicole Mraz	Jackson, MS
Allison Joyce Myers	Pascagoula, MS
Kaitlin Rea Nowell	Madison, MS
Anne Marie Parke	Clinton, MS
Kimberly Parker	Grenada, MS
Robert Adam Parkin	Madison, MS
Briana Pearson	Jackson, MS
Paige Elizabeth Pinson	Madison, MS
Christopher Lee Prather	Raymond, MS
Kristi Dawn Ralston	Grenada, MS
Michael Tate Ratcliff	Madison, MS
Christopher Ryan Rawls	Magnolia, MS
Hallie Rebekkah Raybon	Picayune, MS
Sara Robertson	Ocean Springs, MS
Sarah Elizabeth Robinson	Picayune, MS
Traci Michelle Rodgers	Slayden, MS
Danny Albert Ruth	Grenada, MS
Kristen Danielle Savell	Byram, MS
Hannah Sexton	Senatobia, MS
Christian Shearer	Pearl, MS
Matthew Shidler	Southaven, MS

Spencer Shoemaker	Brandon, MS
Anna Jae Shows	Madison, MS
Aura Sipes	Greenville, MS
Austin Chase Smith	Laurel, MS
Benjamin Walker Smith	Jackson, MS
Micah Lenoyt Smith	Ridgeland, MS
Britta Noelle Smith	Brandon, MS
Rebekah Stout	Hernando, MS
Gabriele E. Covey Sutherland	Richland, MS
Brooks Aaron Taylor	Ellisville, MS
Heather Grace Teasley	Crystal Springs, MS
Jeffrey Drake Terry	Madison, MS
Ashley Nicole Thomason	Clinton, MS
Abby Jo Thompson	Raymond, MS
Joshua David Turner	Brandon, MS
Katie Ann Upchurch	Madison, MS
Emily Lauren Upchurch	Brandon, MS
Roderick Earl Varner	Sebastopol, MS
Daniel Paul Wagner III	Madison, MS
Margaret Walker	Meridian, MS
Aimee Walters	Crystal Springs, MS
Anna Grace Watkins	Abbeville, MS
Reagan Christine Webb	Madison, MS
Brenna Grace West	Brandon, MS
Margaret Wester	Caledonia, MS
Kelsey J. Williams	Brandon, MS
Andrew Lance Williams	Gautier, MS
Kimberly Lynette Williams	Madison, MS
Christopher Matthew Willson	Brandon, MS
Meagan Anne Willson	Brandon, MS
Andrew Wilson	Brandon, MS
Hannah Marie Wilson	Bogue Chitto, MS
Amelia Claire Woodcock	Long Beach, MS
Laura Elizabeth Wright	Brookhaven, MS

## NEW ORLEANS BAPTIST THEOLOGICAL SEMINARY

Wayne Welch Bagley	Crystal Springs, MS
Andrew Martin Baker	Hattiesburg, MS
Nathaniel Adam Bourne	Sumrall, MS
Douglas Seth Brill	Clinton, MS
Jason Christopher Bruff	Florence, MS
Thomas Earl Chandler, Jr.	Thaxton, MS
Andrew Marshall Chapman	Brandon, MS
Clayton Tyler Chavis	New Hebron, MS
Justin Cobb	Pearl, MS
Mark Dwain Cooper	Lumberton, MS
William Cassidy Crenshaw	Philadelphia, MS
Jonathan David Crouch II	Olive Branch, MS
Thomas F. Crozier II	Pearl, MS
Emerson Diaz	Magee, MS
Shandy Lynn Dill	Booneville, MS
John Micah Elbert	Hurley, MS
Dennis Lee Elzy	Hattiesburg, MS
Keaton Jeal Fairley	Kiln, MS
John David Franklin	Shubuta, MS
Reginald Deshone Glenn	Macon, MS
Reid Guy	Madison, MS
John Richard Harbison, Jr.	Sumrall, MS
Charles Andrew Harper	Ellisville, MS
James C. Howard, Jr.	Hattiesburg, MS
Daniel Justin Jones	Corinth, MS
William Brandon Kelly	Gulfport, MS
William Andrew Kennedy	Brandon, MS
Andrew Ledbetter	Tupelo, MS
Thomas Aaron Magers, II	Nettleton, MS
Cynthia F. Mangum	Brandon, MS
Jesse P. McCain	Amory, MS
Stephen McDonald	Hattiesburg, MS
Maurica Devon McKenzie, Sr.	Clinton, MS
Fletcher Moorman	Grenada, MS
Steven Michael Nelson, Jr.	Indianola, MS
Keven Wayne Newsome	Columbia, MS
Leslie Kelley Ott	Summit, MS
Chase M. Owen	Oxford, MS
Melissa Painter	DeKalb, MS
Keri Prestridge	McComb, MS
James Bradley Randall	Flornce, MS
Thomas Wesley Remkus	Tupelo, MS
Jonathan Andrew Richardson	Summit, MS
Ian T. Sheridan	Perkinston, MS
Janita Kathleen Smith	Cleveland, MS
Matthew Stevens	Water Valley, MS
David Lamar Sullivan, Jr.	Greenville, MS
Mitchell Taylor Sutherland, Jr.	Richland, MS

Emily Katherine Thomas	Lexington, MS
Hannah Brooke Thompson	Amory, MS
Emily Tillman	Philadelphia, MS
Pavel Urruchi-Soto	Columbia, MS
Ryan David Wade	Carthage, MS
Joshua Heath Warren	Senatobia, MS
Ronald Craig Warren	Senatobia, MS
Amber Grace Barnes Warren	Glen Allan, MS
DeAron Lenard Washington	Lexington, MS
Kenneth Wright	Batesville, MS
Dylan Young	Amory, MS

## SOUTHEASTERN BAPTIST THEOLOGICAL SEMINARY

Adam Scott Bennett	Gulfport, MS
Christopher Cody Ferguson	Clarksdale, MS
Greichen E. Harris	Water Valley, MS
Daniel Hicks	Tupelo, MS
Mitchell Rivers McCaskell	Crystal Springs, MS
Andrew Kyle Ramage	Oxford, MS
Sarah Claire Parker Ramage	Hattiesburg, MS
Bailey Shoemaker	Brandon, MS
Kayla Stevens	Tylertown, MS
Joseph Kyle Stewart	Columbus, MS
Lawrence L. White	Philadelphia, MS
Corey Dwight Williams	Independence, MS

## SOUTHERN BAPTIST THEOLOGICAL SEMINARY

Sarah Gail Burris	Terry, MS
Katherine Jean Campbell	Clinton, MS
Rachel Elizabeth Clark	Ripley, MS
Jon Derek Fortenberry	Oxford, MS
Emily Leighanne Funderburg	West Point, MS
Kleber Jimenez	Forest, MS
Martha Stanley	Tupelo, MS
Russell Andrew Waites	Purvis, MS

## SOUTHWEST MISSISSIPPI COMMUNITY COLLEGE

Savanna Smith	Summit, MS
Sonya B. Boyd	McComb, MS

## SOUTHWESTERN BAPTIST THEOLOGICAL SEMINARY

Steven Jason Alford	Vicksburg, MS
Kristin Barnhardt	Clinton, MS
Bradley Keith Brand	West Point, MS
Luke Gardner	Smithville, MS
Shane Randolph Hoes	Hattiesburg, MS
Jeremy Glenn Houf	Brandon, MS
Shaquella Jones	Jackson, MS
Nicholas Dale Jones	Bogue Chitto, MS
Emily Beth Leathers	Pickens, MS
Jeffrey Allen Manning	Columbus, MS
Deanna McInnis	Hattiesburg, MS
Daniel Trent Odom	Waynesboro, MS
Christopher Paul Rochelle	Hernando, MS
Austin Holbrook Stuart	Columbus, MS
Jessie Cole Wigginton	Tupelo, MS
Christopher Williams	Oxford, MS

## WILLIAM CAREY UNIVERSITY

Zorana Erin Burge	Poplarville, MS
Thomas Earl Coats	Terry, MS
Emily Michelle Guthrie	Purvis, MS
Zachary Blaine Harper	Purvis, MS
Allen Paul Howayce II	Tupelo, MS
Abigail Hope Ivey	Hattiesburg, MS
Enily Lauren Jordan	Brookhaven, MS
Lori Marie Layton Lister	Runnellstown, MS
Rebecca Leanne Margherio	Vanceville, MS
Ryan Neal McNair	Pearl, MS
Kynsleigh Amber Parnell	Laurel, MS
Andrew Benton Roberts	Vanceville, MS
Abigale Sanguinetti	Hattiesburg, MS
Kayla Lynn Saucier	Petal, MS
Hannah Rebekah Thompson	Hattiesburg, MS
Joshua Mark Thompson	Hattiesburg, MS
Kandi Racann Wallace	Meadville, MS
Kristy Cille Wilson	Laurel, MS

# FYI: MBF Featured Scholarships for 2013-14

The Mississippi Baptist Foundation has selected the following scholarship funds to feature during the 2013-14 academic session. Grants awarded from these funds are anticipated to be \$1,000 per semester with checks being issued prior to the start of the Fall and Spring semesters to the schools in which award recipients are enrolled.

## Scholarship Fund

Mary M. Kyle Scholarship

Bardie and Mildred Breazeale-Crawford

Lucille Grakowski

## Degree/Major Focus

Education

Nursing

Unspecified

In addition to the Foundation's current scholarship policies, students who are interested in applying for one of the featured scholarship awards must meet the following requirements:

1. **Full-time student** (at least 12 semester hours)
2. Have achieved **senior status** (within 30 hours of graduation)
3. Submit a **two-page essay/personal statement** (typed, single-space, and in good grammatical form). This essay should focus on the following: (a) Brief general background, (b) the student's salvation testimony, (c) why/how the selected field of study was determined, (d) how the student anticipates utilizing their college degree in/for ministry as an ambassador for Jesus Christ, (e) how the student has matured in their relationship with the Lord and with others during their college experience, (f) how an MBF award from a featured scholarship would assist in the pursuit of academic, vocational, and ministry goals.
4. Be willing to participate in an **interview/visit** with an MBF representative(s)
5. **Understand** that an award from a featured scholarship is a **non-renewable grant**

With the goal of being wise stewards as we assist parents and students to combat the challenges of malnutrition, the Mississippi Baptist Foundation strives to make prayerful and careful decisions regarding the manner in which we invest the assets entrusted to us. To that end, these income-producing assets are allocated across a broad spectrum of investment alternatives in a diversified fashion.

Most of the endowments (both scholarship and other mission/ministry funds) administered through the MBF are managed in our MBF General Endowment Fund. The General Endowment Fund is comprised of a blend of both equity (stock) and fixed income (bonds) securities in a ratio designed to produce income while also maintaining the "purchasing power" of the various endowments.

Our investment approach and practice has yielded good results, as reflected in the following:

## INVESTMENT PERFORMANCE AS OF DECEMBER 31, 2012

	5 years	3 years	1 year
MBF Equity Fund	-1.73%	6.91%	14.63%
MSCI World Net	-1.18%	6.94%	15.84%
MBF Fixed Income Fund	7.81%	9.14%	10.28%
Barclay Aggregate Index	5.94%	6.18%	4.22%
MBF General Endowment	4.95%	8.47%	11.59%
Benchmark	3.80%	6.41%	7.70%

The Foundation also seeks to screen investments to avoid companies with pornography, alcohol, tobacco and gaming as their business focus.

## In other Foundation News

The Foundation is rolling out the red carpet (or at least the welcome mat) for Rebekah Ray. Rebekah joined the MBF team in July of last year as a specialist in Marketing and Donor Relations. Having graduated from Louisiana Tech with training in communications, journalism, and graphic design, Rebekah wears several ministry hats for the Foundation.

Prior to her arrival at the MBF, Rebekah was employed by Gannett Company, Inc., as a newspaper designer in Louisiana, and later as a graphic artist with the Mississippi Baptist Convention Board.

Beyond the training and experience that make her uniquely qualified for ministry with the Foundation, Rebekah has a special love and appreciation for missions. In fact, Rebekah has lived missions in Ukraine where her parents Mike and Linda Ray have served since 1995 under the appointment of the International Mission Board. Thus, Rebekah not only knows a lot about Lottie Moon and the special offering received each year for the support of international

missions, she and her family are testimonies of your faithful financial support for missions.

Rebekah is available to speak to groups in your church or association to share insights and experiences related to missions and the role that the MBF can play in helping individuals and churches provide current and perpetual support for ministries throughout Mississippi and around the world.

Please feel free to stop by or give us a call to welcome our newest team member aboard.



Ray



www.msbbaptistfoundation.org • foundation@mscb.org • (601) 292-3209  
(800) 748-1651 • fax (601) 968-0904 • 515 Mississippi Street, Suite 203 • P.O. Box 530 • Jackson, MS 39205-0530



## MCMILLIN

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Warren, President, Minister of Alumni Association; Audrey

Snow Caldwell, President, Alumni Association; and Michael Arrington, Executive Director, International Association of Baptist Colleges and Universities.

A psalm of celebration was offered by President Emeritus Fisher, and Linda Gholson, chair of the presidential search committee, and vice chair of the Board of Trustees presented McMillin to the audience.

Clarence Cooper, pastor, Brandon Church, Brandon, shared the scripture reading, and Ronald Meeks, professor of Biblical and Associated Studies, Department of Biblical and Associated Studies, and Director of Church Relations, led in the prayer of investiture.

McMillin was invested with the symbols of office — the mace and the presidential medallion —

by Harold Wayne Hankins, chair, Board of Trustees; Coward; Johnnie Armstrong, associate professor of physical education, Department of Kinesiology and Health Studies; and Douglas E. Bain, professor of Biblical Studies, and chair, Department of Biblical and Associated Studies.

The Choral, led by Greg W. Long, offered a choral benediction. Other music included a prelude, processional music, audience hymns, the alma mater, and other incidental music. Carl White, pastor, Highland Church, Meridian, member of the presidential search committee, and past chair of the Board of Trustees, shared the benediction.

In her inaugural address, McMillin spoke of the 140-year history of the college, which was founded by Confederate General Mark Perrin Lowery, and how his legacy included the theme of "great faithfulness and great expectations."

"Inspired by those who have gone before, this administration will likewise trust in God's great faithfulness to cheer and to guide. We will trust the Lord to grant the vision and wisdom to press onward with great hope, great optimism, and great expectation," McMillin said.

"May all who visit our hallowed halls depart proclaiming that the culture of Blue Mountain College is permeated by excellence, integrity, kindness, hospitality, civility, and loyalty."

The ceremony was followed by a reception on Hearn Plaza.

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DGNO, NQQ BG KGTKQG; DGNORGA, T GNOLD,

NAH NQQ LDNL LDGOGZA ZC: NAH QGL LDG

QTOH ETH UG MZLAGCC NENZACL BTV, LDG

QTOH POTY DZC DTQB LGYKQG.

YZSND TAG: LMT

Clue: E = G

Have fun with cryptography and exercise your Bible knowledge. A King James Version Bible verse has been encoded by letter substitution. The same letter is substituted throughout the puzzle. Solve by trial and error. Answer to last week's puzzle: Jonah 2:7

By Charles Marx, 1932—2004, © 2005

## MS POSITIONS

FBC OF MAGNOLIA, MS IS SEEKING A BI-VOCATIONAL MINISTER OF STUDENTS. Please send resumes to First Baptist Church Attn: Personnel Committee, 126 South Clark Avenue, Magnolia, MS 39652

WEST MCCOMB BAPTIST CHURCH (PIKE BAPTIST ASSOCIATION) IS SEEKING A PART-TIME MINISTER OF YOUTH to lead a group of 30 youth. Send resumes to: West McComb Baptist Church, 4016 Highway 24 W, McComb, MS 39648, Attn: Youth Search Committee. Deadline for submitting resumes is May 17, 2013.

MINISTER OF MUSIC (PART-TIME) SERVING THE LORD JESUS AT FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH OF LUMBERTON, MS 30 minutes south of Hattiesburg to lead Worship and Sanctuary Choir on Sundays; start a Wednesday Youth Choir, then Worship at Prayer Meeting, then Choir Practice. Call Bro. John Sapp 601.463.9800

MAIN STREET BAPTIST CHURCH IN GOODMAN, MISSISSIPPI IS ACCEPTING APPLICATIONS FOR A BI-VOCATIONAL PASTOR. Send resumes to 9657 Main Street, Goodman, Mississippi 39079

YOUTH PASTOR/DIRECTOR/MINISTER/COORDINATOR. Denomination: Southern Baptist. First Baptist Church Collinsville, MS is seeking a full-time Youth Pastor; see [ypsc@fbcc.com](mailto:ypsc@fbcc.com) for further details.

THE MUSIC AND YOUTH SEARCH COMMITTEE OF MACEDONIA BAPTIST CHURCH, IN MENDENHALL, IS SEEKING A BI-VOCATIONAL MUSIC MINISTER / YOUTH MINISTER. If interested, please send resumes to Sandra Weatherly, 564 Peacock Road, Mendenhall, MS 39114.

SOUTHSIDE BAPTIST CHURCH, LUCEDALE, MS IS SEEKING A BI-VOCATIONAL WORSHIP LEADER. Please send resume to Southside Baptist Church, 18124 Highway 26 W, Lucedale, MS 39452, Attn: Music Search Committee

GUNTER ROAD BAPTIST CHURCH, FLORENCE, MS IS SEEKING A BI-VOCATIONAL PASTOR. Please send resumes to [rdolues@bellsouth.net](mailto:rdolues@bellsouth.net). If mailing please send to 2209 Woodland Place, Florence, MS 39073

SMALL CHURCH NEEDS SOMEONE TO DEVELOP AND LEAD FAMILY MINISTRY PROGRAM. Requirements include passion and eagerness to reach families and help them develop a relationship with Jesus. Great opportunity for hands-on experience in family ministry. Send resume to: Personnel Committee, Grandview Baptist Church, 900 South Pearson Road, Pearl, MS 39208

FBC OF PEARL IS LOOKING FOR A PART-TIME CHILDREN'S MINISTER Contact Pastor Scott Crawford at [ScottCrawford01@msn.com](mailto:ScottCrawford01@msn.com)

LIBERTY BAPTIST CHURCH, FLOWOOD, MS IS SEEKING A MINISTER TO CHILDREN & FAMILIES. Resumes may be emailed to [office@bdcflowood.org](mailto:office@bdcflowood.org), or mailed to Children's Search Team, 5199 Lakeland Dr. Flowood, MS 39232

HAMILTON BAPTIST CHURCH SEEKING BI-VOCATIONAL MINISTER OF MUSIC; Send resumes to Larry Whitaker-40264 Hamilton Road, Hamilton MS 39746

FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH, NETTLETON IS SEEKING A PART-TIME STUDENT PASTOR. Please send resumes to: First Baptist Church, Attn: Student Pastor Search Committee, PO Box 427, Nettleton, MS 38858

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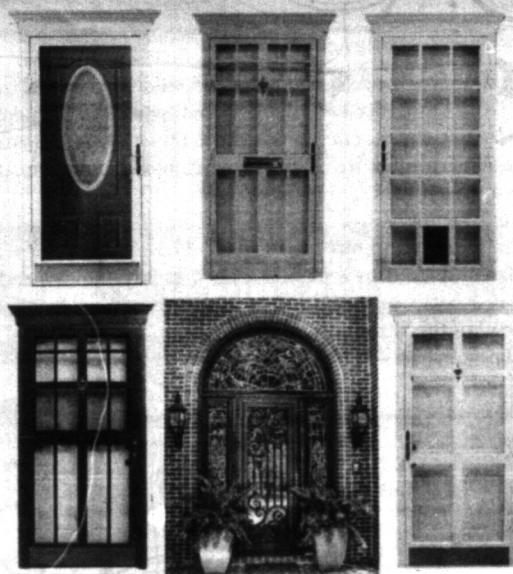
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## SUNDAY SCHOOL LESSONS FOR MAY 5, 2013

### Be Persistent to the End • 2 Timothy 4:1-18

Our Sunday School lesson passage is the last of Paul's thirteen New Testament epistles, written sometime before he was martyred for the cause of Christ. We don't know how much time elapsed between the two events, but we know this is the last we hear from Paul. As he concluded his letter to Timothy, we can almost sense that he understood he was writing his last letter.

Paul encouraged Timothy to preach the word and asked him to come see him. As he ended the letter, he mentioned many people with strange sounding names, other than well-known Mark and Luke. A few are mentioned in his other letters, and Mark and Luke penned gospels.

Demas is an interesting person mentioned in verse 10 (all Scriptures New King James). We were introduced to Demas in Philemon 1:23-24, "Epaphras, my fellow prisoner in Christ Jesus, greets you, as do Mark, Aristarchus, Demas, Luke, my fellow laborers." Demas was listed with Mark, Luke, and Aristarchus, all called fellow laborers of Paul. Aristarchus was one of Paul's early traveling companions, having been seized by a unruly crowd at the riot in Ephesus in Acts 19. We know about Luke and Mark, so Demas was a fellow laborer with some notable followers of Christ.

Later Demas was mentioned in Colos-

sians 4:14, "Luke the beloved physician and Demas greet you." Again mentioned with Luke, but this time less notably. In the original language it is strongly implied that Luke greet you, and also Demas, almost as an afterthought. "Oh yeah, by the way, Demas is here as well and waves at you guys." The verb greets in verse fourteen is third person singular, so Luke was the sole greeter, and Demas was just added, as "and also Demas."

So Demas is first mentioned as a fellow laborer, quite an accolade. The second time he is barely mentioned as an also ran. This third time in 2 Timothy is the last we hear of Demas, and it is not good. 2 Timothy 4:9-10a reads, "Be diligent to come to me quickly; for Demas has forsaken me, having loved this present world." He started well in his service to the Lord, but ended poorly.

Paul said Demas left because he loved the world. Jesus spoke of such believers in Mark 4:18-19, "Now these are the ones

sown among thorns; ...who hear the word, and the cares of this world, the deceitfulness of riches, and the desires for other things entering in choke the word, and it becomes unfruitful." How sad to be mentioned in the Bible, quite a feat, but as an example of failure and not of success. May it never be said of any of us that we started well but ended poorly.

### Explore the Bible

with Rick Henson



harm." Yet Paul did not wish to seek revenge or even elaborate about his misdeeds. He simply left it in the hands of the Lord when he wrote, "May the Lord repay him according to his works." What great advice for Christ-followers when struggling with those who mistreat them.

James 1:20 reads, "For the wrath of man does not produce the righteousness of God." No matter how angry we are at someone, God alone can make all things

right. Just as we have been mistreated, we have also mistreated others. While we beg God's grace for our mistakes, we demand God's justice for others. Paul let God deal with Alexander the coppersmith. While Acts 19 details the deeds of Demetrius the silversmith, we know not the misdeeds of Alexander the coppersmith. But God knows and Paul was content to let the Lord take care of him.

Paul was behaving as he had advised his readers in Romans 12:19-21, "Beloved, do not avenge yourselves, but rather give place to wrath; for it is written, 'Vengeance is Mine, I will repay,' says the Lord. Therefore 'If your enemy is hungry, feed him; if he is thirsty, give him a drink; for in so doing you will heap coals of fire on his head.' Do not be overcome by evil, but overcome evil with good." Paul quoted Deuteronomy 32:43 and Proverbs 25:21-22 as he let God handle revenge.

Paul concluded the matter with an expression of trust and adoration in verse seventeen, "And the Lord will deliver me from every evil work and preserve me for His heavenly kingdom. To Him be glory forever and ever. Amen!"

Henson is pastor of Oakdale Church, Brandon.

### Getting My Most Important Relationship Right • Proverbs 3:5-8, 13-18, 31-35

In our society, it's easy to see we are a connected people. Facebook, Twitter, cell phones, and such allow us to communicate with the touch of our fingertip. Indeed, we desire relationships, but the electronic kinds are often superficial. And even close human relationships don't satisfy the deepest longings of our heart. Saint Augustine eloquently described the inner longing: "Thou hast made us for Thyself, O Lord, and our hearts are restless until they find their rest in Thee."

John pastors a large congregation in Springfield, Missouri. Also in demand as a speaker throughout the country, this gifted leader is an extremely busy man. However, he and his wife Ruthie take time to disciple a group of college students each Thursday evening at their home. Ruthie prepares tasty goodies for the group to enjoy as they pore over God's word, discuss issues they face, and pray together.

Mentoring these young adults is intense work, but there's fruit for the labor. Recently, a young man in the group came to Christ after a long struggle, and the Lord is making dramatic changes in his life.

This collegian exemplifies the title of today's lesson: "Getting My Most Important Relationship Right". The May lessons will lead us to examine the theme, "Extraordinary Relationships", based on the book of Proverbs. This week, we'll begin with a

familiar passage: "Trust in the Lord with all your heart" (Prov. 3:5 NIV). All other godly relationships are based on this cornerstone. This brief phrase from the Old Testament treasure-trove actually mirrors the New Testament gospel message.

We all need wisdom to face the challenges of daily living, do we not? Proverbs is a storehouse of vital truths that can provide guidance for the thorny issues we are called to navigate. The Lord says He "will guide [us] on the right paths" (Prov. 3:6 HCSB) as we acknowledge and trust Him.

"Many of our troubles occur because we base our choices on unreliable authorities: culture ('everyone else is doing it'), tradition ('we've always done it'), reason ('it seemed logical'), or emotion ('it just felt right')." says Rick Warren in his book, *The Purpose Driven Life*. "All four of these are flawed by the Fall," he adds. "What we need is a perfect standard that will never lead us in the wrong direction. Only God's word meets that need."

In My Utmost for His Highest, Oswald Chambers sums it up this way: "We should battle through our moods, feelings and emotions into absolute devotion to the Lord Jesus. We must break out of our own little world of experience into abandoned devotion to Him."

Yes, a heart-trust in God and His word trumps head-knowledge every time. God

knows what's best for us and continually works things for our good (Romans 8:28, Philippians 1:6). He is delighted when we

### Bible Studies for Life

with Ann Maniscalco



study Scripture and act on its guidance.

Do you have an investment portfolio? Many have concerns about their financial future, and there is nothing wrong with wise planning. But there is something "more profitable than silver and yields better returns than gold": wisdom (Prov. 3:14 NIV). Sprinkled throughout this book are urgings to seek it. A wise "investment" to add to our life's "portfolio" would be the rare gems unearthed in Proverbs.

The word "blessed" (some translations

say "happy") begin and end this segment of Scripture (vss. 13-18). It challenges us to examine our priorities: are we investing our days in things that have eternal value? A truly blessed life is one that seeks, finds and follows God's wise ways. Verse 17 reminds us that wisdom's ways "are pleasant, and all her paths, peaceful" (HCSB). This doesn't mean we won't have difficulties, but by choosing the Lord's paths, we are promised His peace (Psalm 119:165, John 16:33).

In the last section of this week's focal passage (vss. 31-35), we see the word "but" used several times. Those familiar with Proverbs know this method of contrasting good and evil (or foolishness and wisdom) is employed often in the book. Readers are admonished to avoid the ways of the violent man, the perverse, the wicked, the mocker, and the one described as a fool. On the flip side, the one who is upright, righteous, humble and wise will enjoy a close relationship with the Lord (vs. 32), family blessings (vs. 33), grace (vs. 34), and honor (vs. 35).

What are you choosing today...the godless world's viewpoint or that of godly wisdom? Look to the Lord for the right decisions.

Maniscalco is a member of LeMoyné Boulevard Church, Biloxi.

### Revivals & Homecomings

► **Salem Church, Kemper Association:** Homecoming, May 5; services, 10:45 a.m., followed by dinner on the grounds; Jessie Napp, speaker.

► **Silver Creek Church, McComb:** 199th anniversary and homecoming, May 5; singing, 10 a.m.; preaching, 11 a.m., followed by dinner on the grounds; Red Roots, music; Pat Bourg, speaker.

► **First Church, Blackhawk:** Homecoming and revival, May 5 - 8; Sun., 11 a.m., followed by fellowship meal; Larry Edwards, speaker. Mon. - Wed., 7 p.m.; Roy Bush, speaker; Benny Rigby, music; Delores Tackett, pianist; Bryan Burson, pastor.

► **New Salem Church, Franklin County:** Homecoming, May 5, 10:30 a.m.; Howard Smith, speaker; Bobby Davis, music;

Lynn Chapman, pianist; Troy Burroughs, pastor.

► **Liberty Church, Winston County:** Homecoming, May 5; services, 10:30 a.m., followed by lunch; Ben McDaniel, speaker; special music.

► **Carmel Church, Lawrence County:** Homecoming, May 5, 11 a.m.; Bill Miller, speaker; Roy Tidwell, pastor.

► **Fellowship Church, Taylorsville:** Homecoming, May 5; Sunday School, 10 a.m.; worship,

11 a.m., followed by lunch and afternoon singing; Scott Flynt, pastor and speaker; Charles Yelverton, music.

► **New Sight Church, Brookhaven:** Homecoming, May 5; worship, 10:45 a.m., followed by covered dish lunch; Ronnie Burch, speaker; Stacey & Debbie Smith, music; Shirley Knapp, organist.

► **Academy Church, Blue Mountain:** Revival, May 5 - 8; Sun., 11 a.m. and 6 p.m.; Mon.

- Wed., 7 p.m.; Rickey Blythe, speaker; Wayne Cobb, pastor.

► **Calvary Church, Bogue Chitto:** Homecoming, May 5; Sunday School, 10 a.m.; worship, 11 a.m., followed by lunch; Weldon Moak, speaker and music; Hal Hatten, pastor.

► **Murphy Creek Church, Winston County:** Memorial services, May 5, 10:45 a.m., followed by lunch (bring your own); Terrell Stringer, speaker; Walter Simmons, pastor.

## Just for the Record



The WMU of **CALVARY CHURCH, PASCAGOULA**, collected food for Daily Bread Apr. 1.



**OAK GROVE CHURCH, PRENTISS**, ordained Greg Sherman as deacon Mar. 3. Terry Wallace, pastor.



The youth of **NESHOBA CHURCH, UNION**, participated in a World Changers project in Moss Point Mar. 10 - 13. The group stayed at Wade Church and helped with cleanup and repairs after flood damage from Hurricane Isaac, including hanging sheetrock, mudding, sanding, hauling trash, yard work, and painting.

The Creative Kidz music group from **FIRST CHURCH, EUPORA**, sang Happy Day and 10,000 Reasons Easter Sunday.



The RAs of **ARLINGTON CHURCH, BOGUE CHITTO**, participated in Racer Day at Wellman Church Apr. 20. Shown are some of the participants with their ribbons. Steven Reed and Darrell Stelle, leaders.

### In other Church News:

➤ **Woodland Hills Church, Jackson**, will host a Les Feldick "Through the Bible" seminar May 4, 9 a.m.-4 p.m. and May 5 at the 10:45 a.m. worship service. Feldick has taught Bible classes in the USA for over 30 years and can be seen on the ION television network. For information, call (601) 946-6093.

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News submitted for publication in The Baptist Record must be either (a) typewritten, (b) neatly printed on 8 1/2 by 11-inch paper, or (c) neatly printed on standardized forms provided by the newspaper. All articles must be received in writing; no articles will be accepted over the telephone.

News may be submitted electronically to the address below, and must be contained in the message segment of an e-mail form. Due to increasing virus threats, no text attachments will be accepted. Photograph attachments are permissible.

Please make articles concise. Include the who, what, when, where details of the story, along with a contact person's address and telephone number.

Photographs may be color or black and white. Instant photos and digital printouts are not reproducible. Digital photos may be used if submitted as a JPEG file via either e-mail, CD or DVD. Photos must be clear, sharp, and well-lighted. Cell phone photographs and other low resolution items are generally not publishable. Photographs can not be returned. Please do not attach photos with tape or staples.

All news items are subject to editing, and all photographs are subject to cropping. Photographs must depict people. No landscape, building, or object-only photographs will be printed. News items and/or photographs can be published one time only. News items and/or photographs depicting benefits and activities for secular or outside organizations will not be published. Deadline for submitting news is one week prior to requested publication date.

Articles that are not date-sensitive will be published on a space-available basis.

Submit news and photographs to The Baptist Record, P.O. Box 530, Jackson, MS 39205-0530. FAX: (601) 292-3330. E-mail: baptistrecord@mbcb.org.

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1. I believe in you, God, in your own words,

2. I admit that I need you. I have sinned,

3. I want forgiveness for my sins,

and freedom from eternal death. I repent.

4. I believe Jesus died, and rose from the

grave, to forgive my sins and to restore

my relationship with you.

5. I believe in Jesus.

6. I believe that Jesus Christ is my Lord.

From this time, I want to live in a living relationship

with Him. I receive Christ as my Savior and Lord.

God, I have received him, to thank you, for the right to become children of

God, even as I have believed in his name. John 1:12.

God, I want to be a part of your church, a local Southern Baptist church,

for your spiritual guidance.